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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3751
Examiner : Amanda R. Flynn
Serial No. : 09/839,643
Filed : April 20, 2001
Inventors : Gad Keren
 : Randy Kesten
Title : METHODS AND
 : APPARATUS FOR
 : REDUCING LOCALIZED
 : CIRCULATORY SYSTEM
 : PRESSURE



Docket: 12191-01
Confirmation No.: 2139

Dated: November 12, 2002

AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
Washington DC 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated August 9, 2002, Applicants amend as follows:

Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 0014 on page 7 with the following:

The present invention reduces the increased diastolic pressure that can occur as part of the clinical syndrome referred to as Congestive Heart Failure (CHF). Passive and semi-passive devices to reduce left ventricular end-diastolic pressure are disclosed, and in preferred embodiments, a shunt-type device allows a small volume of blood to be released from the left ventricle to reduce the pressure. Certain embodiments use a passive check-valve that allows flow only above a given threshold pressure, while others use a passive check-valve that allows flow only within a window between a lower pressure threshold and a higher-pressure threshold. Embodiments employing check valves prevent shunting during left ventricular systole. Alternatively, semi-passive ^{an}embodiments have a valve activated by ~~and~~ external signal, such as an intra-corporeal

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